

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 5, please amend line 5 as follows:

The invention at hand is a method and apparatus for backflushing a filtration device with purified water. Purified water in this preferred embodiment is ~~includes~~ water having a lower total dissolved solids reading than the water being filtered, preferably with a total dissolved solids reading fifty percent lower than that of the water being filtered, more preferably with a total dissolved solids reading eighty percent lower than that of the water being filtered, and still more preferably with a total dissolved solids reading ninety five percent lower than that of the water being filtered. Those skilled in the art will recognize that purified water may be produced using any suitable purification process, such as reverse osmosis, steam distillation or deionization. Backflushing of a filtration device allows the backflush media to lift compacted particles. Water with a low total dissolved solids reading is essentially unsaturated and able to dissolve particles attached to the filter medium. The particles are then removed from the filter medium through the use of a second flowpath terminating in a sanitary drain or other disposal. Various embodiments of the invention may be employed to extend the life of filters, unclog clogged filters or keep new filters from clogging. Backflushing of a filter may be accomplished manually or through an embodiment of this invention that automatically backflushes a filter on a scheduled basis.